GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1601
ANSWERED ON:04.03.2016
Publication of Newspapers
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of newspapers registered with the Registrar of Newspapers for India (RNI) in the country at present name, language, medium and State/UT-wise;

(b) the number of titles had been granted and rejected and grounds for their rejection during the last three years, State/UT-wise; and

(c) the details of steps taken to increase advertisement tariffs, simplify the norms of eligibility for advertisement, protect newspapers of language and regional languages and supply newsprint at concessional rates?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION & BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) Office of Registrar of Newspapers for India is mandated to verify and register a title of newspaper/periodical as per the provisions of Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867.
As on 31.03.2015, 1,05,443 publications having different periodicities were registered with RNI in the country. The State/UT − wise and language −wise list of publications is placed at Annexure-I.
The name- wise details of these publications are available at RNI official website www.rni.nic.in under heading State/Language/State & language/Place of publications of the caption Registered Titles.

(b) The number of titles granted and rejected (State-wise) by RNI during last three years (i.e. 2013, 2014 and 2015) is placed at Annexure-II.

The availability of a proposed title is verified or rejected by RNI in terms of proviso to Section 6 of the Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867 wherein it is stated that the newspaper proposed to be published does not bear a title which is the same as, or similar to, that of any other newspaper published either in the same language or in the same State.

Contdâ€¦./-

(c) The Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) had increased the advertisement tariff by Nineteen percent (19%) on 15.10.2013 with the concurrence of Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure.

The New Advertisement Policy (w.e.f. 2nd October, 2007) has simplified the norms for empanelment of newspapers in various languages and has prescribed a ceiling 30% for English, 35% each for Hindi and for Regional/Other languages, in Rupee terms, for display advertisements.

The office of RNI issues eligibility certificate only for the import of newsprint on Actual User Condition to the registered publications under ITC (HS) Code 480100 01 and 480100 09 based on Newsprint Import Policy of Ministry of Commerce and Industry and as per notification No. 24 (RE-96)/92/-97 dated 5th March, 1997 of Ministry of Commerce and Industry wherein it is stated that Import shall be permitted without an import licence subject to Actual User Condition to those who holds Registration Certificate issued by RNI, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, on submission of necessary documentary evidence duly authenticated by RNI, to the satisfaction of the customs authority at the time of clearance of goods. Foreign Trade Policy for 2015-2020 has been announced in April, 2015 and no change has been made in Policy Condition in respect of Import of Newsprint. Hence, RNI continues to issue eligibility certificate on the basis of existing policy condition. As such RNI does not supply newsprint at concessional rate.

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